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forms of *Sphenophyllum strobili* present features which also point to Equisetinous affinities." As to the probable derivation or genealogy of this form he quotes the Presidential address of Dr. D. H. Scott, made to the Botanical Section of the British Association in 1896, as follows: "One may hazard the guess that this interesting group may have been derived from some unknown form lying at the root of both Calamites and Lycopods. The existence of the *Sphenophyllæ* certainly suggests the probability of a common origin of these two series."\*

In the above hasty sketch only a few salient points have been seized merely as samples of the character of the work, and the reader must go to its well laden pages if he is to obtain any adequate idea of the wealth of information that it contains. Teachers and advanced students, or even original investigators along these lines, will await with some impatience the appearance of the second volume.

LESTER F. WARD.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

#### SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS.

THE *Astrophysical Journal* for August opens with an article on observations on stellar motions in the line of sight contributed from the Emerson McMillin Observatory by Professor H. C. Lloyd. There is an article on the concave grating by Mr. S. A. Mitchell and a number of minor contributions. The greater part of the number is, however, taken up by an article on the series spectra of oxygen and sulphur and selenium by Drs. Runge and Paschen.

THE September number of the *Educational Review* contains articles by Hugo Münsterberg on 'Psychology and Education;' Gabriel Compayré on 'Contemporary Education in France;' William T. Harris on 'The Use of Higher Education;' Charles W. Eliot on 'The Older and the Newer Colleges;' Friedrich Paulsen on 'Examinations;' Walter L. Hervey on 'What German Universities offer to American Students of Education,' and Hiram M. Stanley on 'The Teaching of Psychology.'

THE current number of the *Atlantic Monthly*

\* British Association Reports, Liverpool Meeting, 1896 (1897), p. 1006.

contains two articles of special interest to men of science. Dr. W J McGee takes the fiftieth anniversary of the American Association as the occasion for an article on the advance of science during that period, patriotically maintaining that America must be credited with one-half of its progress. Professor Simon Newcomb contributes the second installment of his 'Reminiscences of an Astronomer,' describing his astronomical work abroad and his visits to European observatories. Professor Newcomb demonstrates that scientific eminence is compatible with an admirable literary style.

THE announcement made in this JOURNAL some time since of the plan for the publication of a journal by the Illinois Hospital for the Insane has been carried into effect by the issue of the first number of a quarterly journal to which the queer name *The Psychiatrist* has been given. It contains four articles by members of the staff of the Hospital: 'Professional Work in Hospitals for the Insane,' by Dr. W. G. Stearns; 'Three Cases of Brain Tumor,' by Dr. A. F. Lemcke; 'The Early Diagnosis of Paretic Dementia,' by Dr. V. Podstata, and 'Laboratory Psychology as applied to the Study of Insanity,' by Dr. W. O. Krohn. The number extends to 66 pages; the subscription price is \$2.00 per annum.

THE *Journal of Tropical Medicine*, edited by Dr. James Cantlie and Dr. W. J. Simpson, and published by Messrs. John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, London, began publication on August 15th, and will be issued monthly hereafter. The first number is mainly occupied by the report of the proceedings of the Section of Tropical Diseases, at the annual meeting of the British Medical Association in Edinburgh.

#### NEW BOOKS.

*Lehrbuch der anorganischen Chemie.* DR. H. ERDMANN. Braunschweig, Friedrich Vieweg und Sohn. 1898. Pp. xxvi + 756. 18 Marks.  
*A Text-book of Geodetic Astronomy.* JOHN F. HAYFORD. New York, John Wiley & Sons; London, Chapman & Hall. 1898. Pp. ix + 351.

*Laboratory Directions for Beginners in Bacteriology.* VERANUS A. MOORE. Ithaca. 1898. Pp. vi + 89.